



Tempe Art in Private Development



Main Event Entertainment

8545 S. Emerald Drive

Lyle London

Vortex Benches, 2014

Stainless steel, glass,
and powder coat

Artist website:

www.artinmetalusa.com

www.glassandsteelsculpture.com

Photo: Lyle London

Description: Two vortex sculptures also function as benches at the Main Event Entertainment entry area. The benches seem to float inside mirrored 'vortex' spirals which are anchored to the wall and sidewalk. These spiral forms are part of London's ongoing series of work, suspended and freestanding, inspired by the fascinating geometry of helixes and spirals. Both forms abound at every scale in the natural world, from the smallest double helix geometry of human DNA, to the largest spiral arrayed galaxies such as our own Milky Way. Plants of many species, primate fingerprints, and nautilus shells are among the thousands of living things that demonstrate 2-dimensional or 3-dimensional spiral forms. The benches provide an easily identifiable pick-up location for patrons, and the curvilinear design provides a welcome contrast to the rectilinear wall massing across the building facade.

Artist biography: Lyle London studied with sculptor Varujan Boghosian and numerous visiting artists (Larry Zox, Dimitri Hadzi, Robert Indiana, Jack Zajac and others) at Dartmouth College in the late 1960's. Zajac's style of biomorphic abstraction has had a lasting influence on his work. After several years of carving stone, and practical experience in the art bronze foundry, London began working primarily in metal. The intimate scale and pronounced formalism of earlier cast bronze pieces have given way to an increasing body of large scale commissioned works, mostly in copper and stainless steel. Another important change in London's work has come from incorporating a greater sense of spontaneity and fluidity through the use of high-tech fabrication techniques, often creating curvilinear, helix and free-form designs. He is known to integrate water features, kinetic motion, glass, and lighting in many sculptures. London's work can be found in public and private collections around the world.

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